

Michael Smith
President

John Mercy
President-Elect

Chris Coco
Secretary/Treasurer



Directors

Reich Chandler - Lufkin
T. John Ward, Jr. - Longview
Larry Phillips - Sherman

August 18, 2006

Dear Fellow Lawyer:

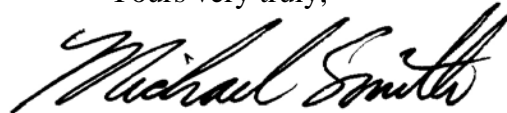
The Tenth Annual Meeting of the Bar Association for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas is scheduled for Thursday, October 12 and Friday, October 13, 2006, in Galveston, Texas at the Moody Gardens Hotel and Resort. This will be a joint meeting with the Judges of the Eastern District of Texas. An agenda is enclosed.

The registration fee is \$295 for Association members, \$395 for non-members. This includes a buffet lunch on Thursday, a cocktail reception and dinner at the Pyramid and Rain Forest for attendees and their spouses or guests on Thursday evening and a buffet breakfast on Friday morning. This year's conference includes a substantial amount of CLE credit - we have applied for 7.5 hours including 3.5 hours of ethics credit. This year, we have also added online registration for the conference and for the annual \$50 association dues at¹ www.edtexbar.com. We have also coordinated our activities with the Houston Intellectual Property Law Association's 22nd Annual Institute on Intellectual Property Law, also being held at Moody Gardens, so attendees can register for a luncheon with U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Commissioner John Doll on a space available basis at a cost of \$40.00. Attendees can also attend the HIPLA electronic discovery sessions on Friday afternoon, as opposed to ours, on Thursday morning at no cost. Forms for these events are also on the website.

As in the past, we are seeking sponsors for our Thursday evening reception to defray the costs to the Association and to avoid using dues to pay for alcohol. Please contact Chris Coco (888-835-6009) if your firm is interested in co-hosting the reception. In the past, the expenses per co-host have been less than \$250.00.

The rate for standard rooms at Moody Gardens per night will be \$139.00 plus tax. You must make your room reservation directly with the Moody Gardens by calling (888) 388-8484 or visiting www.moodygardenshotel.com². While the deadline to register is September 16, 2006, space is limited, so it is very important that you register as soon as possible. I look forward to seeing you in Galveston.

Yours very truly,


Michael Smith, President

¹ For any questions on electronic registration, please contact Elizabeth Berry at (713) 546-5055 or Elizabeth.berry@weil.com

² www.moodygardenshotel.com (Go to: Book a Room Now; Groups tab; Group Member Login, Group ID = 12406; Password = 276 (no Group Contact Password needed)).

PROGRAM AGENDA

Thursday

- 10:45 - 11:45 a.m.** **New Federal Rules of Civil Procedure** This optional pre-meeting presentation by Adam Cohen of FTI Consulting addresses the new proposed Federal Rules on Electronic Discovery, including the duty to preserve electronic discovery. *(1 hour participatory MCLE credit, including .5 hour Ethics)*
- 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.** ***Lunch***
- 1:00 – 1:30 p.m.** **Opening remarks:** Chief Judge Thad Heartfield, Eastern District Bar Association President Michael Smith, U.S. District Clerk David Maland
- 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.** **Practicing in Different Eastern District Courts - Judge-Lawyer Panel** led by Judge Judith Guthrie (Tyler) with Mike Jones (Tyler), Lance Lee (Texarkana), Brian Gary (Sherman), Brad Seidel (Tyler) and Clay Dark (Lufkin). *(1.00 hour participatory MCLE credit, including .25 hour Ethics)*
- 2:30 – 2:45 p.m.** ***Break***
- 2:45 – 3:30 p.m.** **Authors Panel -** Panel discussion by three local authors on the Eastern District - Robert Robertson, author of "Fair Ways", Dr. Jerry Summers, author "Sam B. Hall, Jr.: Whatever is Right", and Mark Barringer, director of Texas Eastern federal court history project *(.75 hours participatory MCLE credit)*
- 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.** **Presentation:** *Impeach Justice Douglas!* by Graham Thatcher *(1.75 participatory MCLE credit, including 1.75 Ethics)*
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner** **Reception and Dinner** Pyramid and Rain Forest, with IMAX

Friday

- 7:00 – 8:00 a.m.** **“Early Bird” Panel on E.D. Tex. Local Patent Rules -** Sam Baxter (Dallas), Pete Chassman (Houston), Calvin Capshaw (Longview), Ruffin Cordell (Washington, D.C.) *(1 hour participatory MCLE credit)*
- 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.** **Breakfast Buffet**
- 9:00 – 11:15 a.m. (with one 15-minute break)** **Criminal issues in Civil Cases:** Sarbanes Oxley and Spoliation: Gerry Welsh (Dallas) *(.5 hours participatory Ethics MCLE)*
- Important Cases From the United States Supreme Court and Fifth Circuit -** Greg Coleman (Austin) *(1 hour participatory MCLE credit)*
- Ethics “Jeopardy” -** Chris Martin (Houston) *(.5 hours Ethics MCLE)*
- 11:15 – 11:45 a.m.** **Eastern District of Texas Business Meeting**
- 11:45 a.m.** ***Program Concludes***

Friday – Optional HIPLA Events

12:00 – 1:30 p.m.	Optional: HIPLA lunch with PTO Commissioner John Doll, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (space limited; cost \$40.00) ³
1:30 – 2:30 p.m.	Optional HIPLA Program: Electronic Discovery (Ethics), Justice Nathan Hecht (no extra cost)
2:00 – 2:30 p.m.	Optional HIPLA Program: Electronic Discovery (Ethics), Dennis Williams (no extra cost)
2:30 – 3:00 p.m.	Optional HIPLA Program: Cost of Electronic Discovery (Ethics), Ron Perkowski (no extra cost)

An application for accreditation of this activity has been submitted to the MCLE Committee of the State Bar of Texas for 7.50 hours of MCLE participatory credit, including 3.5 hours of participatory Ethics, and is pending.

This year's program was the result of work by the Bench Bar Conference Program Committee chaired by David Healey of Houston. Members of the committee include: Lance Lee, Brian Gary, E. Glenn Thames, Jr., Hon. Thad Heartfield, Kevin Kudlac, Erick Robinson, and Mark Nelson.

³ To register for the lunch

go to www.hipla.org

See 22nd Annual Institute, and "Register Online"

Click on 22nd Annual Institute for Intellectual Property"

Click on "ADD" in front of "Friday Lunch - EDTEx Bench Bar Guest"

On the next page, type the first and last name of the registrant

On the next page, click on either "Add Another Registration" or "Go to

Checkout." Any number of registrations can be made in one online session. All will be charged to the same credit card.

At checkout, please use a credit card. This option will automatically guarantee your registration; otherwise you must wait for your check to be received and for it to clear before your reservation is accepted.

Note: For the credit card to be accepted, the billing address must match the registrant's address.

You will receive an email confirmation, and you should print the relevant screens.